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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT  
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A. Vlone

1. [redacted] there does not appear to be any naval headquarters; 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] no war ships were seen in the port. Major Geluskj  
Abdi, said to have been an officer of the Albanian Navy during the period  
when Albania was under Italian occupation, is the commander of the Albanian  
Navy.
2. In the port of Vlone there are two piers: the Customs pier and the Selenice  
pier. The Customs pier, which was blown up by the Germans, has been re-  
built of concrete on concrete supports. It is 250 meters long and has a  
Decauville railway running the length of it, going to Vlone. The first  
section of the pier, beginning at the end farthest from shore, is 50 meters  
long and 12 meters wide; there the bottom is at a depth of 7 meters. Two  
vessels, drawing not more than 6½ meters, may be tied up simultaneously  
alongside this section of the pier. The second section is 50 meters long  
and 10 meters wide, with a bottom of 6 meters. Two vessels, drawing not  
more than 5 meters, may be tied up simultaneously alongside this section.  
The third section is 150 meters long and 8 meters wide, with an uneven  
bottom which slopes from a depth of 4 meters, ending at the shore-line.  
Fishing boats and small vessels can be tied up along this section because  
of the shoals. The iron mooring bitts are about 20 meters apart.
3. The Selenice pier was blown up by the Germans and is still unserviceable.  
There is reportedly no work in progress for its restoration. 50X1-HUM
4. The hulk of a sunken ship lies 200 meters from the end of the Customs pier. 50X1-HUM  
it is marked by a floating gasoline drum attached to the hulk. [redacted]  
[redacted] Entering the bay of Vlone [redacted] the presence of  
an undetermined number of buoys (at least 20) in a direction running from 50X1-HUM  
south-southeast to north-northeast, and beginning after Cape Garlovec on 50X1-HUM  
Karaburun Peninsula. Apparently these buoys support blockade nets. It is  
said that these nets were left there by the Germans.

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5. South of the Customs pier the following buoys have been noted [redacted] 50X1-HUM

- [redacted]
- a. Float for mooring small craft, about 100 meters from the pier.
  - b. Buoy, approximately two meters in diameter, located about 200 meters from the pier.
  - c. A float, to which is moored an iron "bettolina", is located about 300 meters from the pier.
  - d. A float for mooring small craft, about 400 meters from the pier.
  - e. A buoy, approximately four meters in diameter, is located about 1,000 meters from the pier.

Also south of the Customs pier, and about 50 meters before the end of the pier, the following were observed:

- f. A float, to which was moored a motor fishing boat, was seen at a distance of about 50 meters.
- g. A float, to which was tied a large sail boat, was seen about 150 meters from the pier.
- h. A float, to which was moored a motor boat, was seen about 300 meters from the pier.

6. [redacted] there are no cranes in the port, floating "bighi" or other equipment; vessels are dispatched by hand. If there are heavy cases, they are unloaded only by means of the equipment on board the ship. The items which have been unloaded are carried away in four-wheeled trailers, which are drawn by Zettory-25 tractors. In all, five such tractors and trailers were observed. The tractors are of Czechoslovak or Soviet make. Depending upon its nature, the cargo may be carried away in little Decauville cars, pushed or drawn by horses. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- 15 Decauville cars were counted, some of them flat cars and some of them dump cars; the dump cars each hold one cubic meter.

7. There are six large warehouses near the Selenice pier. The walls, which are covered with "eternit", are about 30 meters long, about 15 meters wide and about 7 meters high; at present the warehouses are empty. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- [redacted]

8. The Customs House is immediately to the right of the Customs pier. The headquarters of the Maritime Police and of the Captain of the port is located in this office. [redacted] The captain of the port is a civilian. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] The commander of the Military Police is a young second lieutenant [redacted]

[redacted] He has under his command two officer-candidates and an unknown number of non-commissioned officers and agents. His jurisdiction covers the entire buoy area.

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9. Fifty meters left of the Selenice pier, and about the same distance from the shore, is a reinforced concrete block house covered with earth. [redacted] At the height of four meters there is a large loophole through which a machine gun can easily sweep the Selenice and Customs piers, as well as the water toward Krionero. 50X1-HUM
10. About 50 meters left of the Customs pier, and about the same distance from the shore, is a masonry shelter of reinforced concrete. [redacted] It is occupied by soldiers and no gun emplacements were observed. 50X1-HUM
11. Shipping traffic in the port of Vlone is very small; on an average, it may be calculated at about one steamship a month. For the most part there are Soviet, Polish and Rumanian ships [redacted] Usually they discharge flour, wheat, cement and iron bars. For some time there has been no sign of war material, which formerly served to resupply [redacted] rebels. [redacted] Once a week the port is visited by an Albanian motor-sail boat which runs between the various Albanian ports carrying various items, but not passengers. 50X1-HUM
12. The town of Vlone is not visible from the Customs pier because it is hidden by natural growth. The height of Kusbabaj is observed overlooking the town. To the left of the mosque and north of the city, at a height of 130 meters, is a gun emplacement with four pieces of medium caliber and of Soviet make. [redacted] the following fortifications and defenses were observed: 50X1-HUM
- a. At an angle of 20 degrees and a height of 130 meters, about 1500 meters away and inside a sparse pine grove, was observed a camouflaged blockhouse surrounded with a system of trenches and traverses which are also camouflaged and also protected by barbed wire entanglements. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
  - b. Above the blockhouse and to the left was observed the entrance to a tunnel which might shelter a heavy caliber gun. [redacted] However, it is said that this tunnel leads to a large munitions dump excavated in the cliff. 50X1-HUM
  - c. At the same height, but slightly to the right of the blockhouse, was observed an almost cylindrical building of reinforced concrete, approximately two meters in height. Because of the natural growth it was not possible to see what purpose it might serve. 50X1-HUM
  - d. Perpendicularly below the blockhouse, at an elevation of about 40 meters, a wooden barracks, occupied by soldiers, was observed within the natural growth. 50X1-HUM
  - e. From the point beginning at the trenches and traverses which intersect the entire slope of the hill to a height of 160 meters, the blockhouse shown [redacted] is guarded by sentinels stationed outside. On the crest of the hill soldiers were observed to be coming and going. 50X1-HUM
  - f. On the crest of another hill at an angle of 45°, and an elevation of 180 meters, about 2,000 meters away from the look-out point were observed three emplacements, each 200 or 300 meters apart. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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- g. At an angle of 45°, on the crest of another hill, at an elevation of approximately 240 meters and at a distance of 3000 meters from the look-out point, were observed three gun emplacements, 300 meters apart. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- h. At an angle of 60°, on the crest of still another hill 3500 meters away from the look-out point, were observed three more emplacements for light weapons, about 200-300 meters apart. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- [redacted] These emplacements are camouflaged and thus the weapons are not visible. At each emplacement sailors are on guard. Soldiers were observed constantly moving around. 50X1-HUM

[redacted] these are old emplace- 50X1-HUM  
ments which have been modified by the Soviets, enlarging them and building new communications trenches and pits in the cliff on the opposite slope of the heights. Every emplacement is believed to have two or three weapons and also extended cannons for coastal defense. The cannons are said to be of medium caliber and of Soviet make.

13. On the Island of Kanine three or four long-barreled cannons are also said to have been emplaced. It has not been determined whether they are of medium or heavy caliber, but are believed to be of Soviet make.

#### B. Krionero

1. There is a naval command in the same office in which the Italian naval command used to be located. [redacted] It is 50X1-HUM  
commanded by a lieutenant who has 15 men under him, including non-commissioned officers and sailors.
2. There is a small ship-yard where the sailors make minor repairs to the wooden ships of the navy as these are required. Apparently this yard is on the point of being closed down. No naval equipment is set up and there are no piers.
3. There are three round fuel tanks which have been rebuilt, at an elevation of 40 meters. The large pipe is in the sea and runs along the bottom for a distance of 200 meters and then, with a hose, is connected with the tankers which are being loaded. The tankers tie up at the bow and stern to two buoys there. Every month a Soviet tanker of 12 or 13,000 tons comes there to take on a load. [redacted]
- [redacted] The oil is taken to Rumanian refineries. 50X1-HUM
4. Immediately above the three tanks is the opening to a tunnel, within which are two anti-aircraft guns of Soviet make. They are mounted on a craft with rubber-tired wheels. To emplace them the soldiers push them onto the concrete emplacement at the entrance to the tunnel. About 10 soldiers assigned to these guns live in a nearby barracks. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
5. The road from Krionero to the top of Mt. Kanine has recently been widened and the road surface done over.

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6. On the Vlone-Fier road, from the top of the Bestrove hills as far as the port of Lake Iussa (sic - mouth of the Vijose River - ?), at intervals of 200 to 500 meters and at elevations ranging from 30 to 50 meters, there are about 40 anti-aircraft emplacements which are protected by trenches and barbed wire emplacements. Each emplacement has an anti-aircraft gun of Soviet make.
7. On the road from Vlone to Arta, between the airfield and the salt marshes, there is an emplacement with four anti-aircraft guns of Soviet make.

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C. Karaburun Peninsula

1. The Karaburun Peninsula is considered a military zone and civilians are not permitted admittance to it. It is garrisoned by two Albanian artillery battalions under the command of a Soviet major and a Soviet captain, and other Soviet and Albanian officers.
2. At the present time there does not appear to be any work in progress in the Pasha Liman area; however, there is an anti-aircraft emplacement with two guns.
3. At Cape Lincust there is an undetermined number of emplacements hollowed out of the rock and built with concrete.
4. At Cape San Giovanni two emplacements were observed dug out of the rock. At each emplacement there is a cannon of medium caliber, camouflaged by a net. In this area were observed four more similar posts, but the cannons were not visible.

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Cape San Giovanni is low and rocky; further in, in the bay, a large white building is visible. The telephone line connecting Cape San Giovanni with Cape Linguetta starts from this building.

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5. In the rocky cliff of the Cape Gerlovec area which precipitously overlooks the sea, at an elevation ranging from 20 to 40 meters, were observed three or four loopholes from which it is possible to sweep the sea between Sasena and Cape Treporti.

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7. At elevations ranging from 20 to 40 meters, 15 anti-aircraft emplacements were observed in the rocks of Cape Linguetta. In one of these emplacements a cannon of medium caliber was observed. In the other emplacements, the guns were not visible. Almost in the middle of these emplacements, at an elevation of 40 meters, there is a garrison.

8. Immediately after Cape Linguetta, in a small bay, a buoy was observed. In the gap a stairway had been dug out, leading from the sea to an elevation of 10 meters, where a road, which passed by the emplacements, led up to the garrison.

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D. Saseno Island

1. Direct observation revealed the lighthouse on the northern height and about the middle of the coast. At present the lighthouse is not operating.

The signal building is on top, but the station is not operating. Between the lighthouse and the signal station, and specifically on the top of the area surrounding the signal station, the displacement of large quantities of earth moved in the course of recent excavations may be observed.

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2. At the bottom of Hell Valley, which intersects the island and divides the northern from the southern heights, was observed a large building which might be a garrison.

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3. On the southern summit large masses of earth which had been moved in the course of recent excavations were also observed.

4. On the extreme southern side of the island, a building of large dimensions was observed, surrounded by three or four other small buildings. From this point a mule track lead through the middle of the hill toward the interior of the island and Hell Valley.

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5. vessels of 2-3,000 tons can now tie up at the concrete pier in the port of San Nicolo; the naval command is said to be in the same building which was formerly occupied by the Italian Naval Command. A lieutenant with 30 non-commissioned officers and sailors under him, is reportedly in command. There is one radio station in the command and another where the Italian D.I.C.A.T. used to be. The equipment is of Soviet make.

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6.

7. Vessels in the port included the motor-sail boat previously described which shuttles back and forth to Vlone. two tugboats armed with a small cannon

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with a speed of 67 miles per hour. Sometimes they are moved to Cape Treporti and to Durres. Each month a Soviet vessel of 1,000 to 1,500 tons unloads war materiel. In the month of June about 30 anti-aircraft cannons were unloaded at San Nicolo along with cases of munitions, explosives and other unspecified materiel.

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8. Three roads lead out of San Nicolo, one to the entrance of the northern height, one to the valley which divides the island in half, and the third to the top of the southern height. In addition, on the eastern slope of the northern and southern heights, huge masses of earth recently moved in the course of excavations made there were observed. On the northern height of the signal station, in addition to the radio station, there is a navy meteorological station to which are assigned two non-commissioned officers and eight sailors who took a course in Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. There are also 50 artillery men in the building.
9. The garrison of the island amounts to approximately 600 men, most of whom belong to the artillery; the commander is a Soviet major. Foreign ships are prohibited from entering and leaving the bay of Vlone between Saseno and Cape Treporti because it is considered a military zone.
10. The Soviet and Yugoslav authorities, from 1946 until shortly before the Tito-Cominform dispute, had all the Albanian coast mined from Shen Vasil to Sarande. The coast is allegedly still mined.
11. The Shen Vasil area is reportedly guarded by a battalion of Soviet marines. The soldiers are quartered in the buildings below the road which passes immediately beneath the village of Shen Vasil. An undetermined number of Soviet soldiers are also at Sarande.
12. At Cape Treporti [redacted] three new emplacements have been dug, each of which is provided with four medium caliber guns of Soviet make. [redacted] In the little port of Treporti a launch, armed with automatic guns, was observed outside at night and inside during the day, on coastal patrol.

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